

State of Hawaii  
Department of Human Services  
Office of Youth Services

Safe House Group Home  
RFP #HMS-503-06-02  
Addendum #1

Questions and Responses

The following are responses to questions received during the request for proposals (RFP) Orientation Sessions held on July 15 and July 18, 2005 or received in writing prior to the July 20, 2005 deadline as specified in Section 1 of this RFP.

1. How many youths will be in the residential program?

As specified in Section 2, Service Specifications, pages 2-2 and 2-3, D, the Safe House program will initially be limited to six youth. The applicant shall accept up to eight youth upon the acquisition of required licenses and permits and approval by pertinent city and state agencies.

2. What are the ages of the youth in the program?

As specified in Section 2, Service Specifications, page 2-2, D, the Safe House program will provide services to youth 13 to 17 years old.

3. What gender will youth in the program be?

As specified in Section 2, Service Specifications, pages 2-2 and 2-3, D, the initial target group for the Safe House program is juvenile females referred by the Family Courts, Office of Youth Services, and the Department of Human Services. Future conditions, circumstances, and assessment of needs may dictate that other target groups, including low-risk juvenile males, may be more appropriate for this service.

4. Where will youth in this program come from?

The primary target group for this program is youth from the Honokaa-Hamakua district of the Big Island. Youth from other districts of the Big Island and from the islands of Kauai, Maui, and Oahu, respectively, are next in order of priority for placement in this program.

5. What kinds of criminal history will youth in this program have?

As stated in Section 2, Service Specifications, page 2-2, D, the target population for this program is low-risk juvenile offenders or abused and neglected youth who are exhibiting runaway behavior or other status offenses.

6. What is meant by “relapse prevention”?

Relapse prevention is a process in which youth are provided with skills and strategies that will assist the youth from engaging in selected anti-social behaviors, particularly while the youth is in the community.

7. Is the provider required to develop their own educational curriculum?

The provider may develop their own curriculum or may utilize a curriculum from the State Department of Education (DOE). As stated in Section 2, Service Specifications, page 2-7, (d), the curriculum must meet the standards established by the DOE and parallel that of the youth’s home district school to assure transfer of educational credits.

8. Are family visits conducted at the Safe House program or in the community?

Visitations with family members may be conducted both at the Safe House program and in the community.

9. Who will be responsible for major repairs of the Safe House building?

The State shall be responsible for major repairs of the Safe House building including repairs to the roof, foundation, and the water and electrical lines to the building. As stated in Section 2, Service Specification, page 2-9, (q), the applicant shall be responsible for the repair of damages to the building structure, fence, fixtures, and furnishings caused by the applicant’s staff or youth.

10. Will we be able to visit the building and grounds where the Safe House program will be located prior to the RFP submittal deadline?

A site visit has been scheduled for July 26, 2005, 12:00 noon, at the old teacher’s cottage (at the very end of Ohelo Road) on the grounds of the Honokaa Civic Center. Questions regarding this site visit may be directed to Tom Maedo at (808) 587-5700.